Thein Dam

@@@2652. SHRI KALPNATH RAI: Will the Minister of ENERGY be pleased to state:

(a) what is the estimated cost of Thein Dam;

(b) by when the dam is planned to be completed; and

(c) what are the benefits which will be acquired from the Dam?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF POWER (SHRI ARIF MOHD. KHAN): The estimated cost of Thein Dam is approximately Rs. 700 crores, based on 1983 prices.

(b) As per the Project Report, the Project is expected to be completed in years' time.

(c) The project would afford irrigation facilities to 3.48 lakh hectares of land. The anunual power generation woud be about 1500 million KWH.

Distribution panel and Cable Terminal Boxes in Calcutta

2653. SHRIMATI KANAK MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Distribution Panel and Cable Terminal Boxes in many areas of Calcutta are lying uncovered and without doors which might be one of the main causes of telephone disorder in the city; and

(b) if so, what action has so far been taken to rectify the defects?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) Yes, Sir. A few of the Cabinets/Pillars/DPs containing the Cable Terminal blocks are reported to be without doors or covers and locks due to these.

@@@Previously Unstarred Question 2037 transferred from the 6th December, 1985.

being stolen and vandalised. But this is one of the cause of telephone disorder but the main reason is cables being damaged.

(b) Patrol and maintenance parties note the cabinets, pillars and DPs with missing doors/covers/locks and arrange replacement and repair. Police are requested to apprehend thieves and vandals and prevent theft/vandalisim.

Telephone cable laying job

2654. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the private contractors handle the telephone cable laying job through unskilled mazdoors instead of through the departmental skilled workers;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Government propose to stop the said system; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Cable laying whether done departmentally or through private contractors is done through unskilled mazdoors. Appropriate supervision by skilled persons and acceptance testing procedures are followed to ensure that work is done as per standards.

(c) and (d) No, Sir. The procedure of cable laying whether done departmentally or through private contractors is the same. The inconvenience to the public if any due to digging of roads and footpaths can not be entirely avoided.

Laying of telephone cables

2655. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government's directives to lay telephone cables below 3 feet from the road surface is not being adhered to by the authorities and cables are being laid only 6 to 7 inches

below the road surface resulting in cable breakdown frequently; and

(b) if so, whether Government propose to improve the situation and if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) No, Sir. The cables are laid as per standards generally. In fact important cables are laid 5 ft. below road surface to avoid damages. However, in certain cases due to constructional difficulties cables are laid at shallow depth with sufficient precautions.

Breakdowns do sometimes occur due to damage to cables by digging operations by other public utilities despite these precautions.

(b) It is proposed to construct underground ducts to protect the cables from external damages on long-term basis for primary and junction cables. Jelly filled cables are being used in distribution network to prevent breakdowns due to ingress of water.

Use of telephone cables

2656. SHRIMATI ILA BHATTACHARYA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that jelly filled and Stalpath telephone cables of 81 lbs| 61 lbs are being used instead of 40 lbs which are of high grade and international standard:

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the system is proposed to be changed; and

(d) if not, what are the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI RAM NIWAS MIRDHA): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The Department is using jellyfilled cables of 6 1/2 lbs and 10 lbs gauge. This is as per international standards. The stalpath cables were imported and used as one time requirement in the Department. 40 lbs cables are rarely used and these are for special requirements only.

(c) and (d) There is no proposal to change the system of using jellyfilled cables in the cables network as this is as per international standards and practices.

Task for public sector enterprises

2657. SHRI NEPALDEV BHATTACHARJEE: Will the Minister of INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether any year-wise task was formulated for the public sector enterprises under the control of the Ministry of Industry;

(b) if so, the details of the tasks assigned and their achievements since the year of formulation uptodate; and

(c) the reasons in the cases of shortfall in achieving the targets?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT (SHRI M. ARUNACHALAM): (a) and (b) The year-wise tasks for the public sector enterprises are formulated by the public sector enterprises in consultation with the Ministry. These tasks are also indicated in terms of financial and production targets at the beginning of each year and the performance of the public enterprises is thereafter being reviewed periodicaly in terms of the assigned targets.

The performance details of each public sector enterprise are analysed and furnished in the Public Enterprises Survey brought out every year. This is also tabled in Parliament annually.

(c) There are various reasons which contribute to the shortfall in achieving targets. The following are some of the reasons for shortfall in achieving targets:

(i) Power shortage,

(ii) Recessionary conditions in some industries,